

1       METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CONTROLLING FLOW OF DATA BETWEEN  
2                   DATA PROCESSING SYSTEMS VIA A MEMORY

3                                   ABSTRACT

4       Methods, apparatus and systems are provided for controlling flow of data between a  
5       memory of a host computer system and a data communications interface for  
6       communicating data between the host computer system and a data communications  
7       network. In an example embodiment, apparatus comprises a descriptor table for storing a  
8       plurality of descriptors for access by the host computer system and data communications  
9       interface. Descriptor logic generates the descriptors for storage in the descriptor table.  
10      The descriptors include a branch descriptor comprising a link to another descriptor in the  
11      table.